

Amendments to the Specification

IN THE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION

Please replace paragraph [0079] with the following amended paragraph:

[0079] The analysis of the powder obtained with an X ray diffractometer showed the oxide powder with a very high crystallinity and which consisted of ZnO single phase. Observations conducted with a scanning electron microscope (SEM) confirmed a powder which consisted of agglomeration-free particles having an almost spherical shape and a narrow particle size distribution with a maximum particle diameter of 5µm and a mean particle diameter of 2µm.

| Examples ~~15-18~~15-19

Please replace paragraph [0082] with the following amended paragraph:

[0082] The process was conducted in the same manner as in Example 14, except that the temperature of the electric furnace was 800°C. The heating temperature was below 1/2 of about 2000°C (under pressure) which is the melting point of zinc oxide. The powder obtained had an irregular particle shape and a low crystallinity. The characteristics of the powder obtained are shown in Table 2.

Table 2

	Type of oxide	Concentration of starting material powder in gas phase (g/L)	Cross-sectional area of nozzle opening $S(\text{cm}^2)$	V/S	Heating temp. ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	Properties of produced powder		
						Mean particle diameter (μm)	Maximum particle diameter (μm)	Crystallinity
Example 14	ZnO	0.4	0.13	1500	1200	2	5	100
Example 15	ZnO	0.1	0.13	1500	1200	1.5	3	100
Example 16	ZnO	5.0	0.13	1500	1200	3	8	100
Example 17	ZnO	0.4	0.03	6700	1200	1.5	4	100
Example 18	ZnO	0.4	0.28	710	1200	2	6	100
Example 19	ZnO	0.4	0.50	400	1200	3	12	100
Comparative Example 3	ZnO	12.0	0.13	1500	1200	8	40	90
Comparative Example 4	ZnO	0.4	0.13	1500	800	2	6	70

| Example ~~19~~20

Please replace paragraph **[0084]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0084] The powder obtained was confirmed by the X ray analysis to be a ZnO powder with good crystallinity. SEM observation results showed that the powder consisted of agglomeration-free spherical particles having a maximum particle diameter of 0.8 μm and a mean particle diameter of 0.2 μm .

(CeO₂ powder)

| Example ~~20~~21

Please replace paragraph **[0086]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0086] The powder obtained was confirmed by the X ray analysis to be a CeO₂ powder with good crystallinity. SEM observation results showed that the powder consisted of agglomeration-free spherical particles having a maximum particle diameter of 2 μm and a mean particle diameter of 0.8 μm .

(TiO₂ powder)

| Example ~~21~~22

Please replace paragraph **[0088]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0088] The powder obtained was confirmed by the X ray analysis to be a rutile-type TiO₂ powder with good crystallinity. SEM observation results showed that the powder consisted of agglomeration-free spherical particles having a maximum particle diameter of 5 μm and a mean particle diameter of 2 μm .

(Cobalt oxide powder)

| Example 2223